Amendments to the Specification

Page 2, please insert the following paragraph after line 11,

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 of the drawing is a perspective view of a section of a protective sheath constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 of the drawing is a perspective view of a section of a protective sheath constructed in accordance with a variant of the present invention.

Page 2, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 14-19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~According to the invention, the protective sheath is made of a synthetic fabric having high tenacity unfinished weft and warp yarns, the count of the yarns used for making the synthetic fabric ranging from 400 to 2000 decitex and the number of yarns ranging from 62 to 70 yarns per centimetre, within a tolerance limit of ± 8 yarns per centimetre.~~

Figure 1 illustrates a protective sheath 10 according to the present invention. The protective sheath 10 is made of a woven synthetic fabric 11 having a structure formed of high tenacity warp 12 and weft 13 yarns. The count of the yarns ranges from 400 to 2000 decitex and the number of yarns ranges from 54 to 78 yarns per centimetre. The woven synthetic fabric is chemically finished with a continuous dyeing process.

Page 2, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 24-27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~According to another feature of the present invention, the protective sheath is made of two layers of synthetic fabric each having yarns of different colour in order to show the degree of weariness of the sheath and permit the replacement thereof.~~

Figure 2 illustrates a protective sheath 20 according to a variant of the present invention. The protective sheath 20 is formed of a multi-layer fabric comprising an inner layer 21 and an outer layer 22 of a woven synthetic fabric, each layer of the multi-layer fabric having a structure formed of high tenacity warp 23 and weft 24 yarns. The weft 23 yarns of one layer are interlaced with the warp 24 yarns of the other layer according to a construction which is known in the art. The count of the yarns ranges from 400 to 2000 decitex and the number of the yarns ranges from 54 to 78 yarns per centimetre. Each layer of the multi-layer fabric is chemically finished with a continuous dyeing process, whereby the layers of the multi-layer fabric are dyed with different colors, thus permitting the degree of wear of the outer layer of the multi-layer fabric to be indicated.